AN INDIAN COUNTRY FARM POLICY ROUNDTABLE
Hosted By Indian Nations Conservation Alliance & Intertribal Agriculture Council
Las Vegas, Nevada Friday, December 9, 2005

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MR. HOWARD: Hello. My name's Anthony Howard, and I'm from the Navajo Nation. Just a quick comment. I think my main concern is funding for more extension agents out in our area. Our area, our covered area, is 30,000 square miles from one end to the other end. There is 150 miles going from north — from south to north, and then 200 miles going from east to west. So a day's work takes me all day to service people out there. And I think — I wish there was like maybe four or maybe even five Anthony Howards out there doing these type of services. Then, number two, is just to comment what MR. Notah brought up was the tally count on producers out on Navajo land, they said there was only 400 livestock producers, but in reality there's 12,000 livestock producers. So we need to get that number accurate. I just want to say thank you, MR. Parker, for being here and listening to our comments. That's all I have to say:

MR. RACINE: Thank you. Anthony. I'm sorry to have to keep hitting that microphone. The Secretary just advised me that we have only about another ten minutes in which to take some comments. All of these, as I said earlier, are being recorded by a legal recorder. We will have transcripts available. If you're wanting copies of this transcript, please let us know. Let one of the staff members know, one of the board members know so we can get copies made. But a copy will definitely go to the Secretary of Agriculture and Secretary Parker. Also want to add one more comment is that we've heard this morning about the need for outreach. The best people in the country to do outreach are Indian people, that is, the Indian organizations that work with the tribes. We are best equipped. We know how to get there. We know how it should be done. We can do the best job. We can take the example where we have prepared the outreach tool kits in one state and apply that to every state and apply that to the communities we work with. So please ensure in your efforts that in communities Indian people are provided the outreach necessary, and that you use our organizations to do it. Other comments? You got about ten minutes, seven minutes, six minutes --